

News Release

Blackwater National Wildlife Refuge

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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BLACKWATER NWR ANNOUNCES CLOSURES FOR DEER HUNTS

Blackwater National Wildlife Refuge will close a majority of the Wildlife Drive on Monday, November 30, and Friday, December 4, 2015 for the annual Quota Deer Shotgun Hunts. The **west section of the Wildlife Drive (approximately one mile) will be open and free of charge for these two days**. Visitors may enter from what is normally the first exit of the Wildlife Drive, one-quarter mile west of the Visitor Center, on Key Wallace Drive. The tire shredders normally operating at the first exit will be locked down to provide access to the Wildlife Drive.

In addition, the Key Wallace hiking trail, located at the corner of Key Wallace Drive and Egypt Road, will be closed periodically during the deer hunting season. The trail is scheduled to be closed on the following dates: October 23 and 24, October 29 through 31, November 30, December 4, December 10 through 12, December 19 and 20, 2015, and January 8 and 9, 2016.

The daily operation of the Blackwater Visitor Center remains unchanged. Normal operating hours of the Visitor Center are Monday - Friday 8am - 4pm, and Saturday - Sunday 9am - 5pm. Blackwater's Visitor Center will be closed on Thanksgiving Day and Christmas Day, but the Wildlife Drive and trails will remain open. Call 410-228-2677 for more information, or visit the refuge web site at www.fws.gov/refuge/Blackwater.

The mission of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is working with others to conserve, protect and enhance fish, wildlife, plants and their habitats for the continuing benefit of the American people. We are both a leader and trusted partner in fish and wildlife conservation, known for our scientific excellence, stewardship of lands and natural resources, dedicated professionals and commitment to public service. For more information on our work and the people who make it happen, visit www.fws.gov.

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